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Nebraska Weekly Weather & Crop Report



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Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Agricultural Extension Service
of Nebr. College of Agriculture

Week Ending 7/1/74

WEATHER

Precipitation was extremely light over the State with mostly zero or trace amounts. However, 1.06 inches fell at Wakefield in northeastern Nebraska.

Temperatures were near normal with hot days but cool nights mostly in the east.

CROPS

Nebraska farmers and ranchers had seven days suitable for fieldwork during the survey week (June 21-28). Topsoil moisture supplies are 90% short and 10% adequate. Subsoil moisture supplies are 22% short and 78% adequate. Recent warm weather and low rainfall during June have depleted surface moisture supplies considerably. Crops are showing signs of stress mainly late plantings. Severe hail damage was reported in extreme north-east Nebraska, mainly in Knox County and the surrounding area.

Winter wheat crop condition is reported as mostly good to excellent in eastern Nebraska while conditions in western Nebraska are mostly good to fair. About 95% of wheat statewide has turned, which is above normal. Panhandle wheat varies in degree of ripeness from 20-40% ripe. Extreme southern counties in Nebraska report wheat as virtually 100% ripe. Other areas in the State maturity ranges from 0 to 50% ripe. First harvesting began about June 22. Harvest is ahead of normal and well ahead of last year. Harvest statewide is approximately 15% complete to date. Harvest along the Kansas-Nebraska border has advanced rapidly and is nearly 50% complete. Wheat that has been harvested has been low in moisture and test weight is mostly near 60 pounds. Wheat growers in parts of western Nebraska are concerned about premature ripening of wheat.

Corn condition is mostly good statewide. Growth is advancing very rapidly in early planted corn due to present warm conditions; but late plantings are showing signs of heat stress and lack of surface moisture supplies. More irrigation has started because of the continuing warm, dry weather. Most corn rootworm problems are in fields not previously treated. Also, infestations of corn leaf aphids and corn borers are being reported.

"Holcus Spot Leaf" and other bacterial leaf diseases are continuing to show up in some fields. Infestations of "Bank's Grass Mite" are reported in Dundy County. Cultivation for the last time is about completed and in some areas corn is too high to lay-by. Anhydrous applications are continuing.

Sorghum condition is reported as mostly good to excellent. Reports indicate that recent dry surface conditions may affect secondary root development in many localities. Chinch bug and greenbug populations continue to be problems.

Soybeans condition is mostly good to excellent statewide. Bean leaf beetle is reported to be working on young plants and causing some damage in eastern Nebraska.

Oats and other small grains are beginning to turn. Leaf rust in small grains is not uncommon this year in some localities.

Sugar beet thinning operations in the North Platte River Valley are virtually completed. Second hoeing is about 50% complete. Growers are applying lay-by herbicide to reduce late weed populations. Many sugar beet fields have about 80% stands. Irrigation is continuing. Field beans are progressing very well.

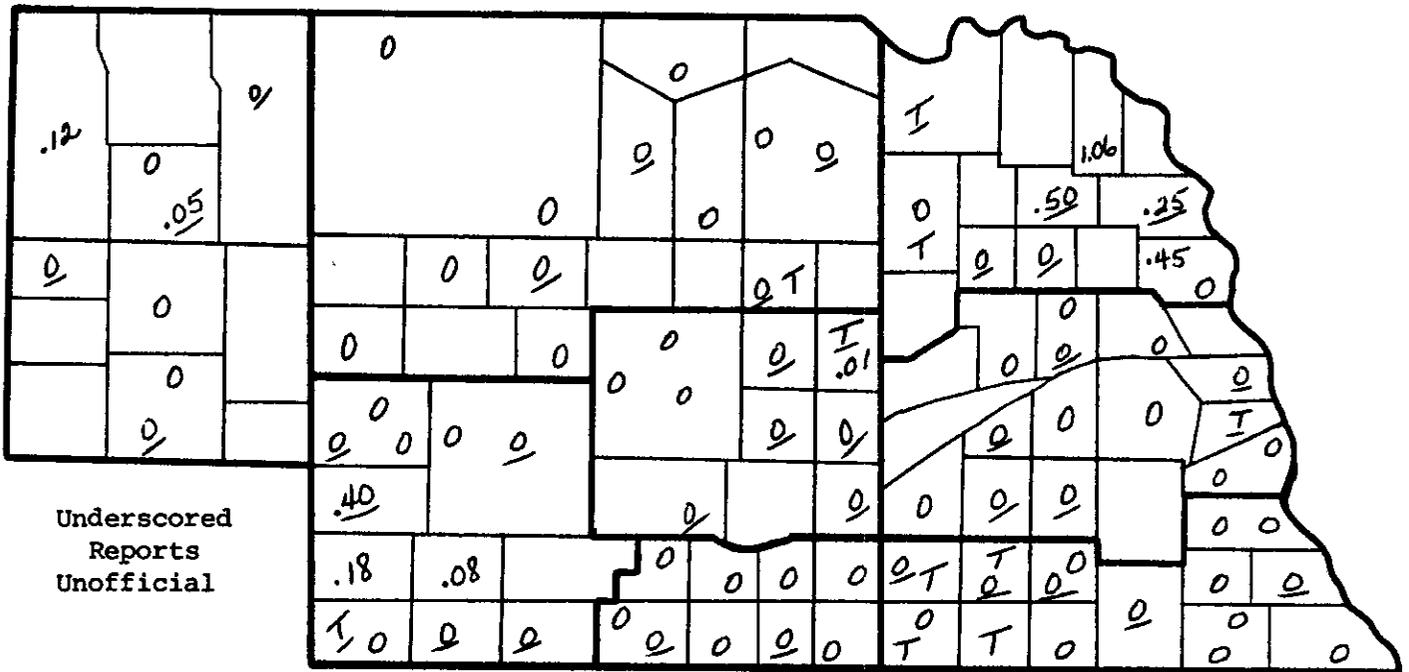
Alfalfa and wild hay condition declined from last week. Virtually all first-cutting hay is harvested and some second-cutting hay is being harvested. Reports of alfalfa weevil infestations have greatly declined. Wild hay condition is also declining with hot, dry weather.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range supplies are short in 22% of the counties and adequate in 78%. Sandhills and Panhandle range supplies have declined from last week and native grasses are mostly dry and dormant with the exception of wet lowlands. Musk thistle populations are a problem this year in pastures. Cutting and spraying are being done for control. Range fire hazard is rising.

Livestock are generally in good condition. Livestock movement is normal. The early warm weather this year is causing fly and pink eye problems in many areas.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 A.M. SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 1974



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 P.M. SUNDAY, JUNE 30, 1974

Station	Temperature				Precipitation	
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches <u>1/</u>	
	Max	Min				
NW	Chadron	101	51	77	--	T
	Scottsbluff	102	55	78	+8	0
	Sidney	97	51	--	--	.02
NC	Burwell	96	49	71	--	0
	Valentine	100	48	75	+5	T
NE	Norfolk	92	49	72	-1	T
	Sioux City	93	52	72	-1	0
CEN	Grand Island	100	52	73	-1	0
EC	Lincoln	104	51	75	0	0
	Omaha	96	48	71	-4	0
SW	Imperial	98	57	--	--	.18
	North Platte	94	49	71	0	.06

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.

Precipitation, April 1 - June 28, 1974

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week.....	.30	.00	.30	.00	.00	.50	.00	.00
Total since April 1....	4.40	6.60	10.50	8.70	9.30	7.40	8.00	8.60
Normal since April 1...	7.59	8.73	9.91	9.55	10.33	8.03	9.47	11.25

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